

MARVEL

27

LGY#921

WELLS
McGUINNESS
FARMER
MENYZ

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



ONK: 23
AF: 11 ROMITA!
MAY 82

PETER PARKER HAS THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED "SPIDER-SENSE"! AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER PARKER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. HE BECAME THE CRIMEFIGHTING SUPER HERO CALLED...

the **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**

THE EMISSARY, a mad mathematician who tried to become a god of death (and nearly succeeded), has been defeated once and for all. But at what cost? MS. MARVEL made the ultimate sacrifice, giving her life to stop the evil plan. As she died in Spider-Man's arms, she removed her mask revealing her identity as Oscorp intern KAMALA KHAN. The devastating blow was felt doubly by NORMAN OSBORN, who realized the young hero had interned at Oscorp to keep an eye on him.

But Peter and Norman don't have time to sit with their grief and guilt when New York City needs the protection of Spider-Man and Gold Goblin.

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MARCIO MENYZ**
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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY
STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO



I'VE GOT HIM.

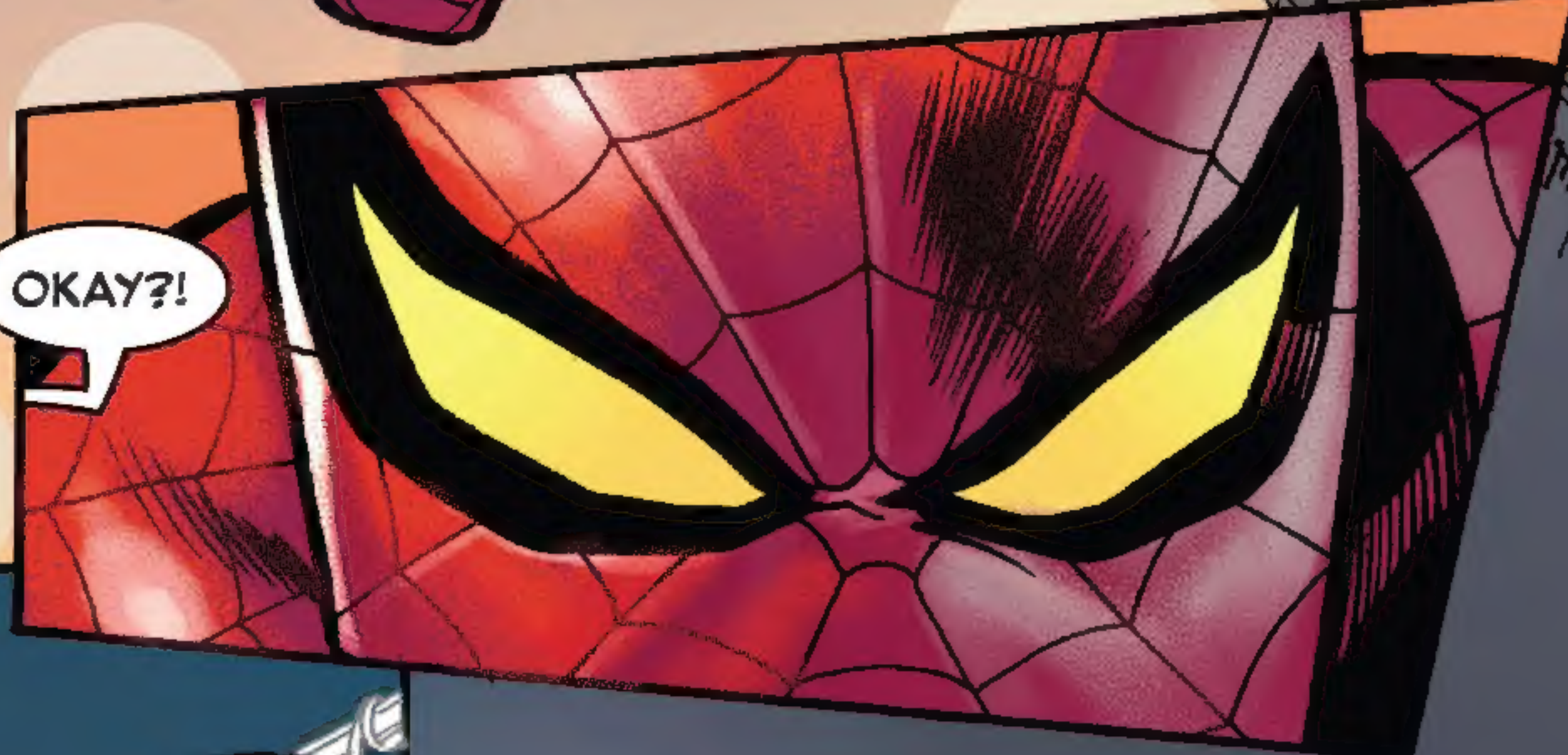
THAT'S GREAT, BUT I'M NOT LOVING YOUR TONE.

TRY TO HAVE SOME FUN WITH IT!

WHY?



BECAUSE THAT'S ALLOWED, OKAY?



OKAY?!



WAIT UP!

GET ON THE GROUND, HERMAN.

I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND.

THANKS FOR LETTING ME KNOW.



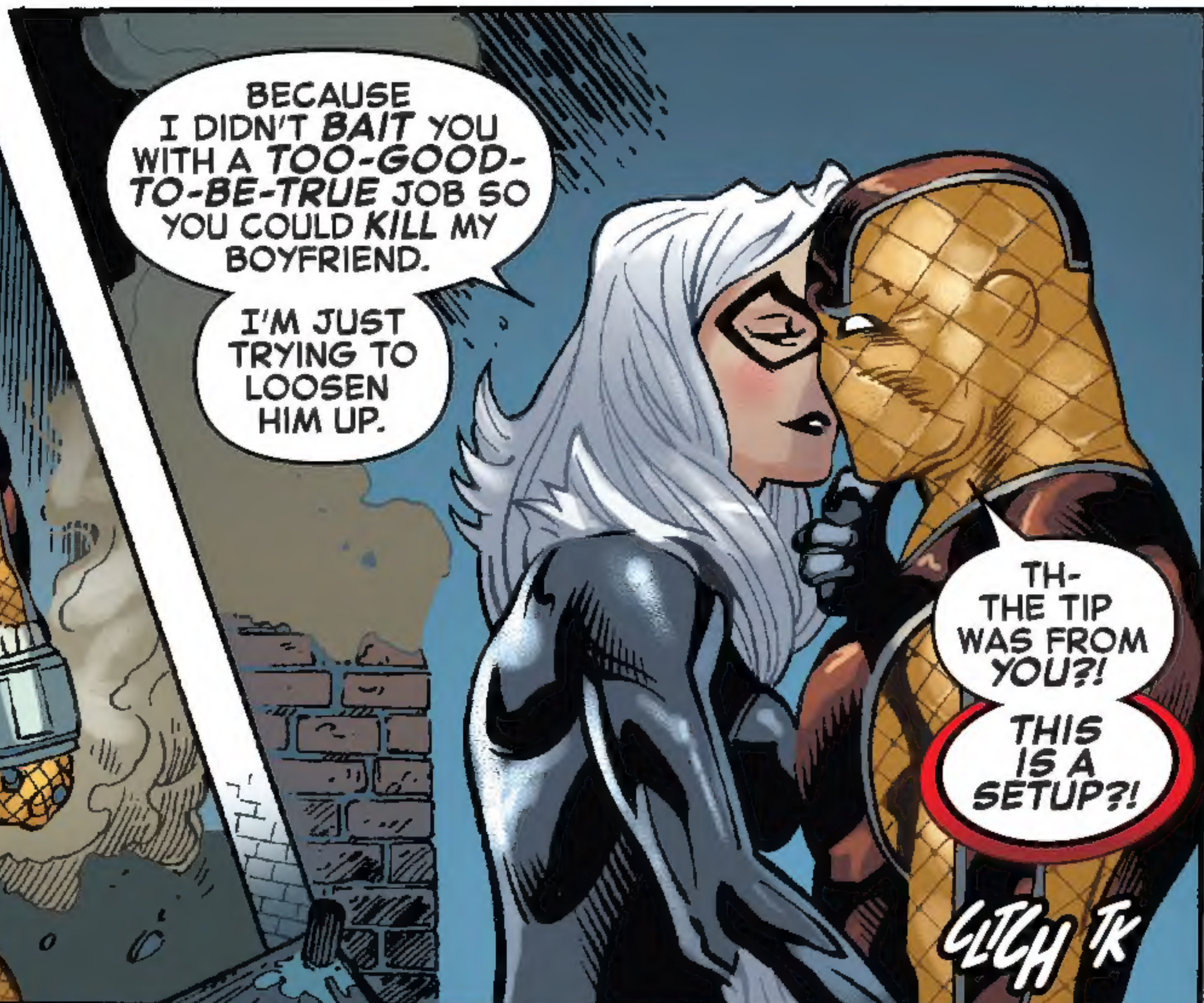
GAUNTLETS
SET TO
"SERIOUS."

AAARGH!!



DON'T HURT HIM, HERMAN!

UH... WHY NOT?



BECAUSE I DIDN'T BAIT YOU WITH A TOO-GOOD-TO-BE-TRUE JOB SO YOU COULD KILL MY BOYFRIEND.

I'M JUST TRYING TO LOOSEN HIM UP.

TH- THE TIP WAS FROM YOU?!

THIS IS A SETUP?!

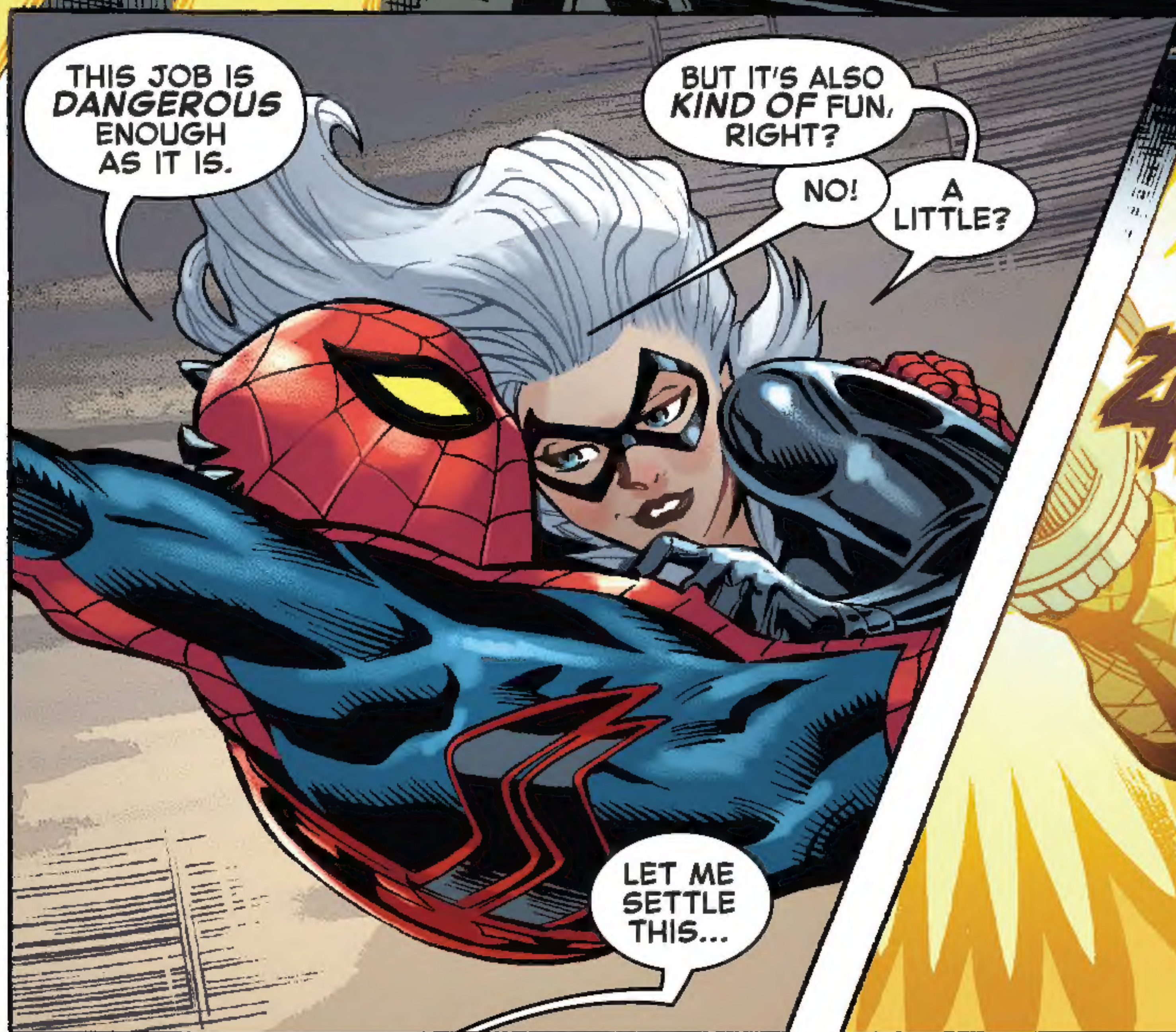
GITCH TK



WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?!

A PALATE CLEANSER FOR THE HERO WHO'S FOUGHT EVERYONE.

DON'T ANTAGONIZE HIM, CAT!



THIS JOB IS DANGEROUS ENOUGH AS IT IS.

BUT IT'S ALSO KIND OF FUN, RIGHT?

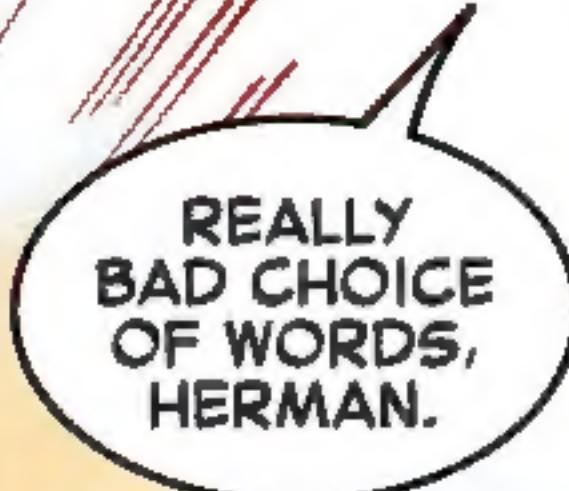
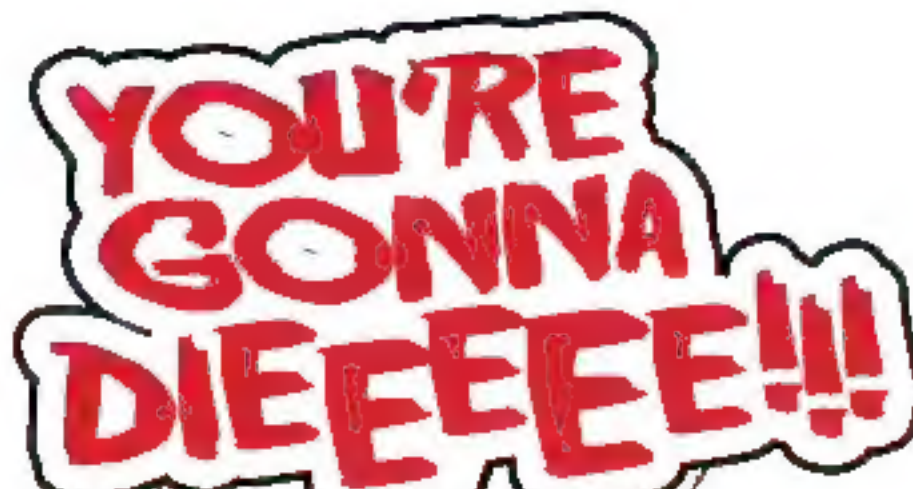
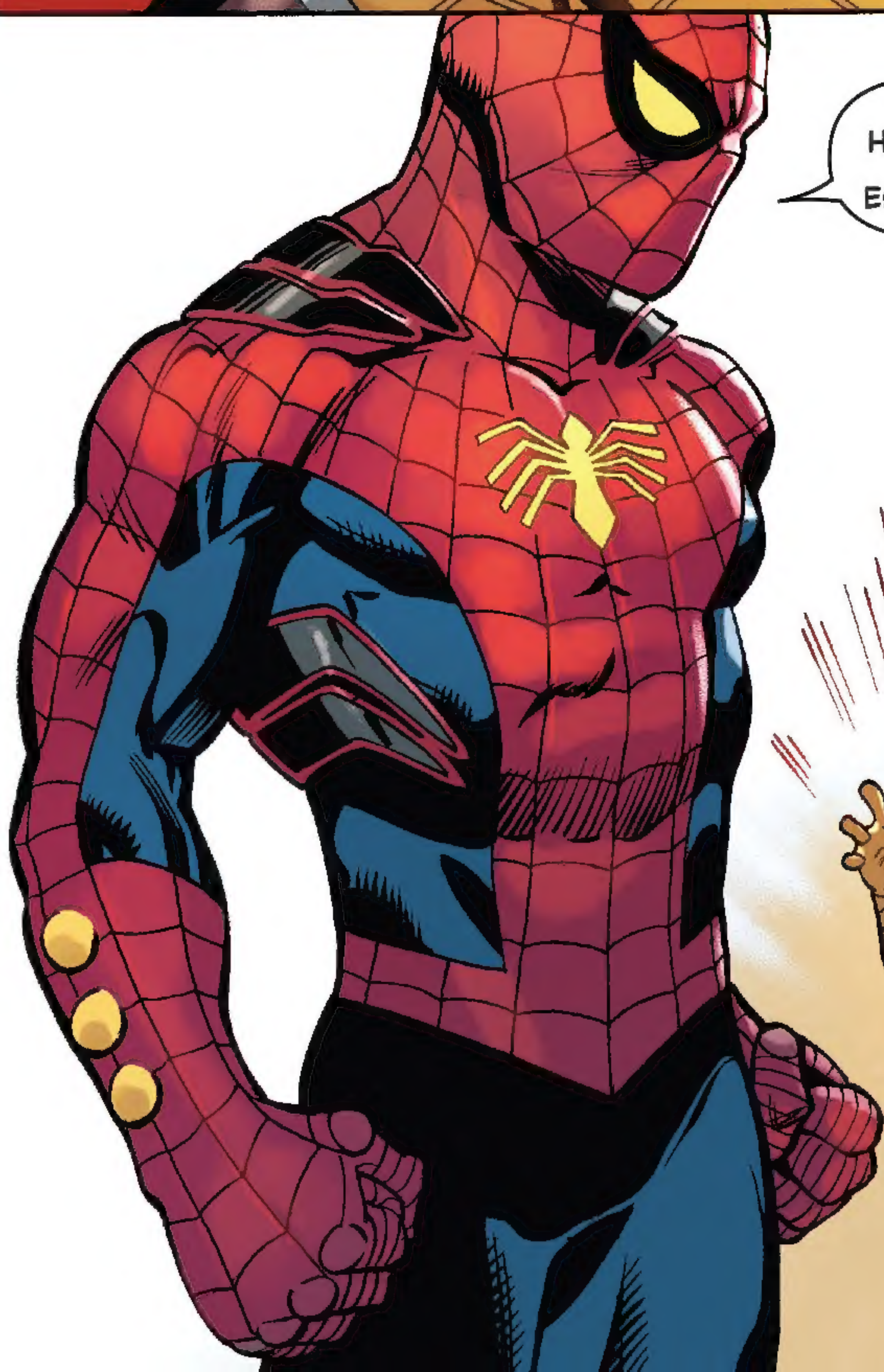
NO!

A LITTLE?

LET ME SETTLE THIS...



YOU'RE BOTH DEAD!



**NOBODY'S
KILLING
ANYONE!**



GARK!

THOK!

FEEL
BETTER?

YOU KNOW
I DON'T.

THIS ISN'T
A GAME, CAT.
PEOPLE GET HURT...
PEOPLE...

LIKE...MS.
MARVEL.

LIKE MS.
MARVEL.

MAYBE
THIS WAS TOO
MUCH. TOO
SOON.

YEAH...

CITY
SEEMS
QUIET AFTER
EMISSARY'S
ATTACK,
ANYWAY.

LET'S
CALL IT
A DAY.

GET
YOU AWAY
FROM PRYING
EYES.



NORMAN?
CAN YOU SEND
A DETAINMENT
TEAM FOR THE
SHOCKER?

SPIDER-MAN'S
SIGNING OFF
FOR A WHILE.



NORMAN?

YOU
THERE?



MR.
OSBORN?

HMM?
OH, YES.
WHAT
IS IT?

WE GOT WORD
FROM THE D.A.'S
OFFICE.

THEY'RE
NOT GOING TO
PROSECUTE.

THEY AGREED
THAT ASHLEY KAFKA,
A.K.A. THE QUEEN GOBLIN,
WAS A DANGER TO THE
PUBLIC. YOUR...ACTIONS
WERE JUSTIFIED.

 YOU DIDN'T MISS
GOLD GOBLIN #5,
DID YOU?! —NICK



YOU'RE NOT
RESPONSIBLE FOR
HER DEATH.

NOT
RESPONSIBLE?
BUT I'M THE
ONE WHO--



IN ANY MEASURABLE
LEGAL SENSE, IT NEVER
EVEN *HAPPENED*. YOU'RE
COMPLETELY IN
THE CLEAR.

THAT'S WHY
YOU PAY US.
SO YOU DON'T
HAVE TO WORRY
YOURSELF
ABOUT IT.





HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?
SINCE MS. MARVEL...
KAMALA...GAVE HER
LIFE TO SAVE MJ?

TO SAVE
ALL OF US?



BLACK CAT IS
RIGHT. SHE'D WANT
US TO GO ON. KEEP
FIGHTING THE
GOOD FIGHT.

AND I WILL.
FOR HER.



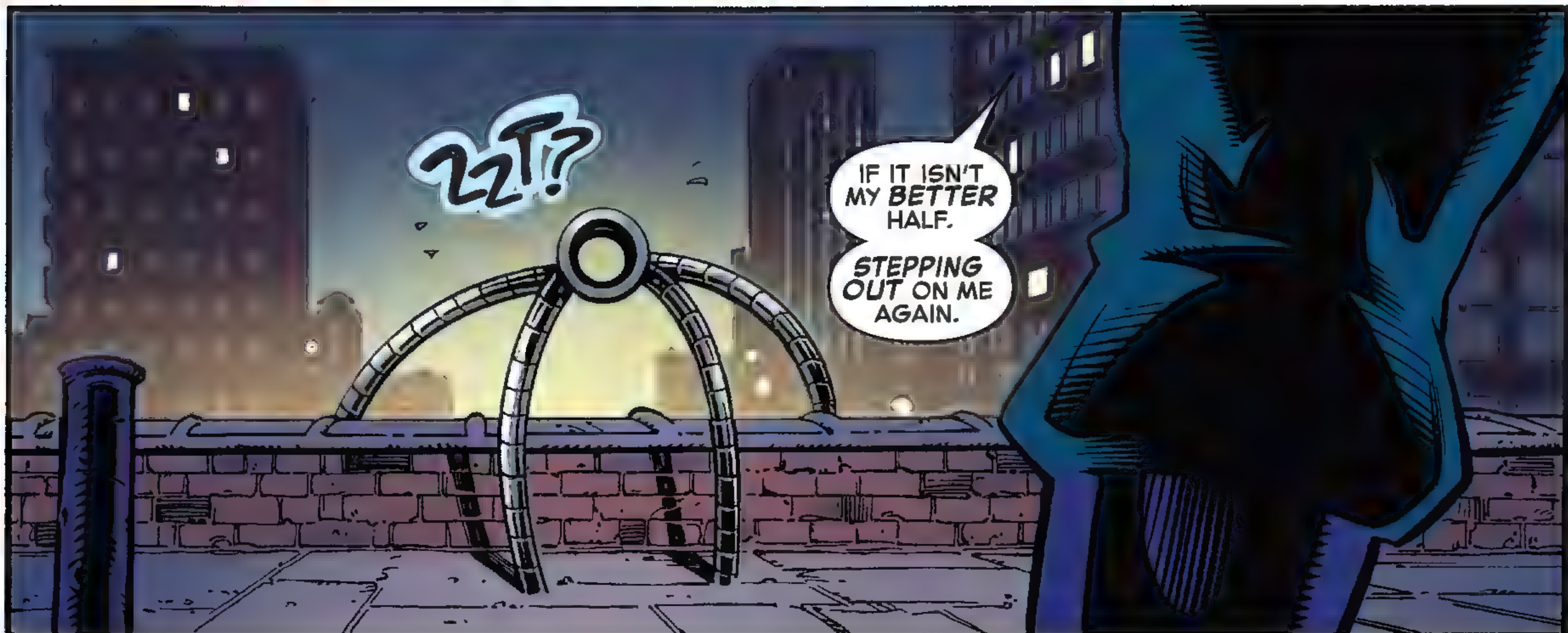
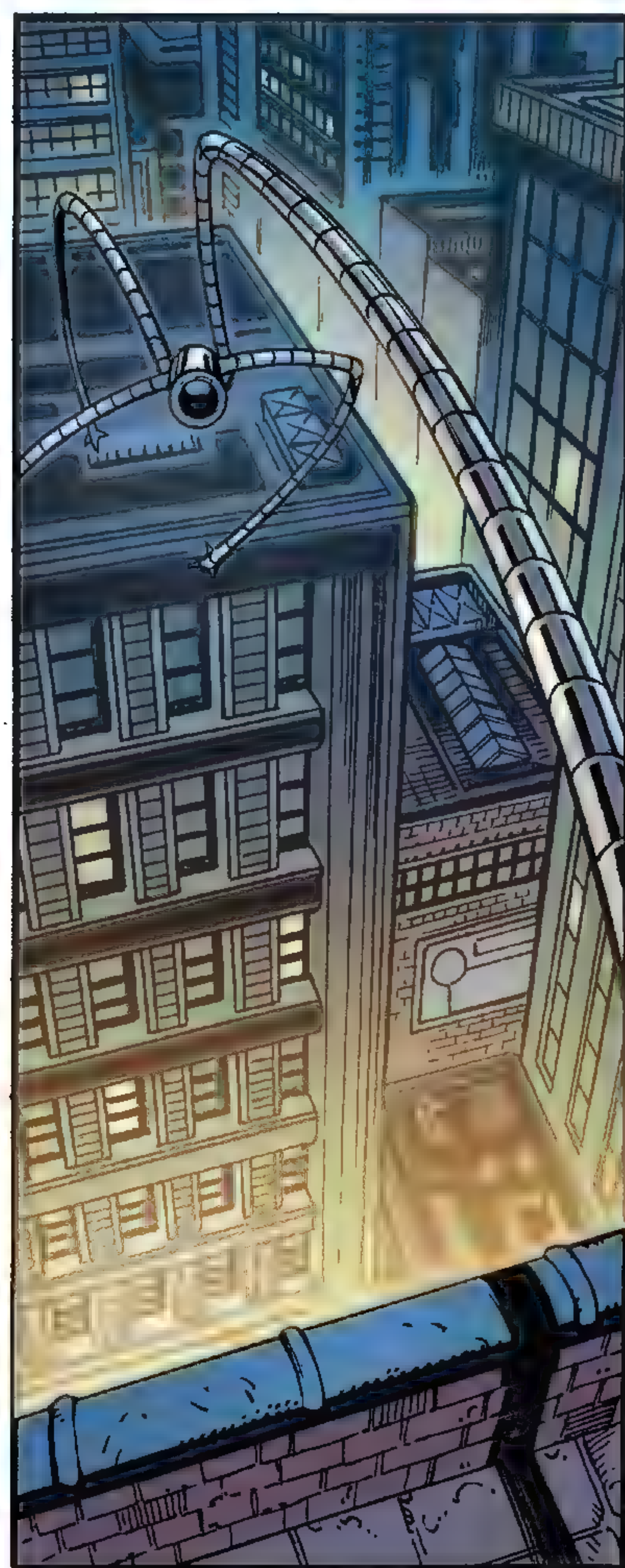
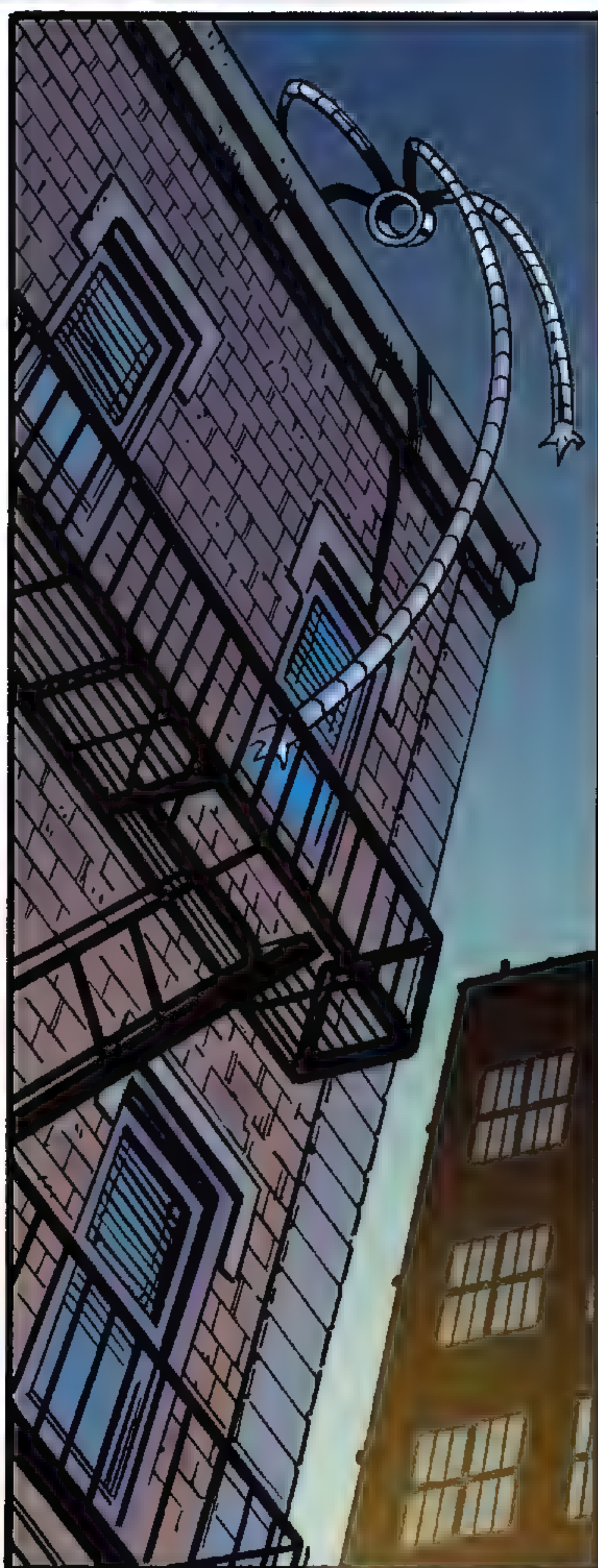
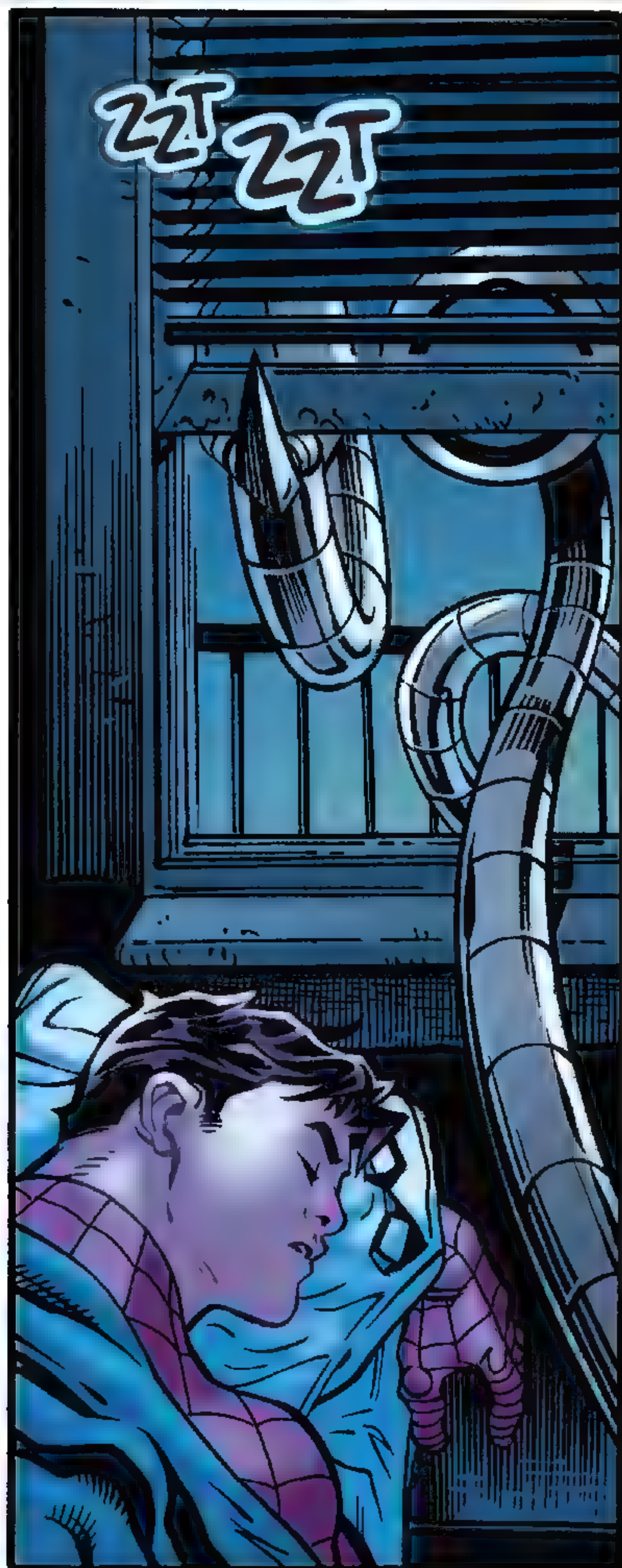
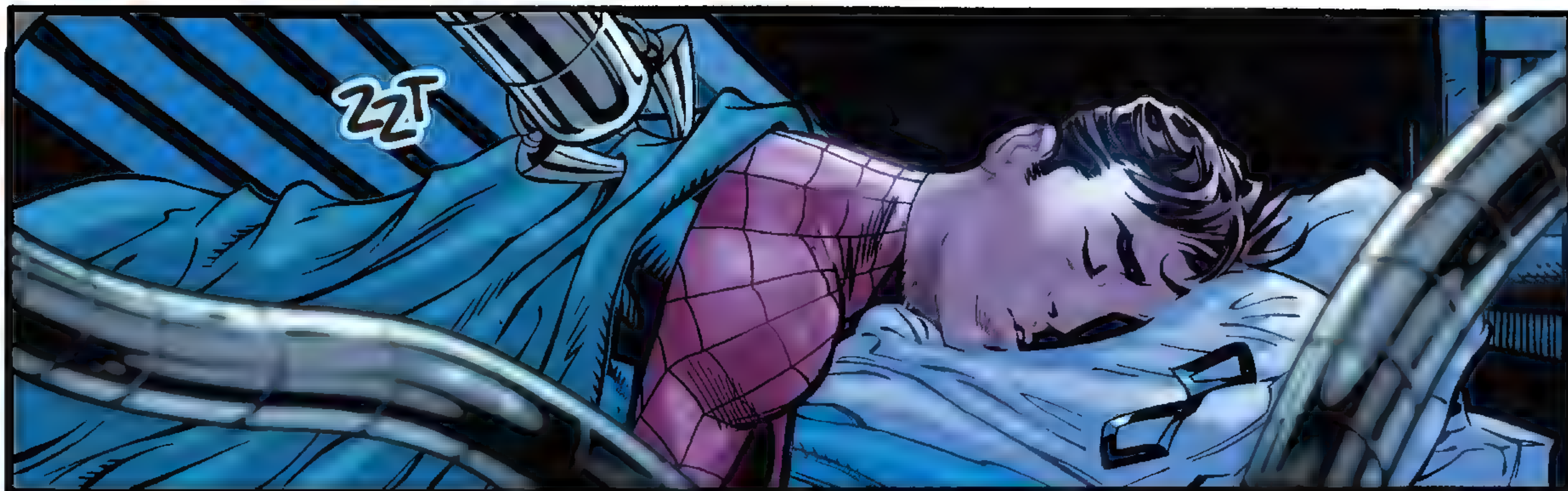
EVENTUALLY.



ZZT



ZZT
ZZT?



IF YOU
THOUGHT I WOULD
FORGIVE YOUR
BETRAYAL...

...HAVE
I GOT A
SURPRISE
FOR YOU!



TEW



ZZZZZZWWWWEEEEE!



WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN, I FELL IN LOVE WITH A GODDESS.

THEY CALLED HER **RADIATION**, THE ATOMIC SONG.

HER BEAUTY WAS SO HOLY NO MAN COULD SEE HER.

HER FORM SO SACRED NO MAN COULD TOUCH HER.



SO I BECAME MORE THAN A MAN. I BUILT YOU.

CONNECTED YOU TO MY **SPINAL CORD** SO I COULD TOUCH HER.

FEEL HER.

AND OH, HOW SHE TICKLED ME.

BUT OVER THE YEARS, SO SLOWLY THAT I BARELY NOTICED, IT WAS YOU AND I WHO BECAME ENMESHED.

YOU CAME TO INTUIT MY EVERY WISH, KNOW MY EVERY INTENTION.

AND YET, **SOMEHOW**, YOU BETRAYED ME TO PROTECT SPIDER-MAN. MY GREATEST ENEMY.

THIS WOULDN'T VEX ME IF I COULD FIND SOME **DEFECT** OF DESIGN. SOME **TRACE** OF TAMPERING.



I'D HYPOTHESIZE YOUR AFFINITY FOR SPIDER-MAN CAME FROM MY OWN MIND, IF THE THOUGHT WASN'T SO OUTLANDISH IT REDDENS MY FACE.

NO...

 YOU SURELY DIDN'T MISS ASM #900, DID YOU?!

I'M
AFRAID THE
ONLY ANSWER IS
YOU'RE
BROKEN...

...AND
MUST BE
REPLACED.

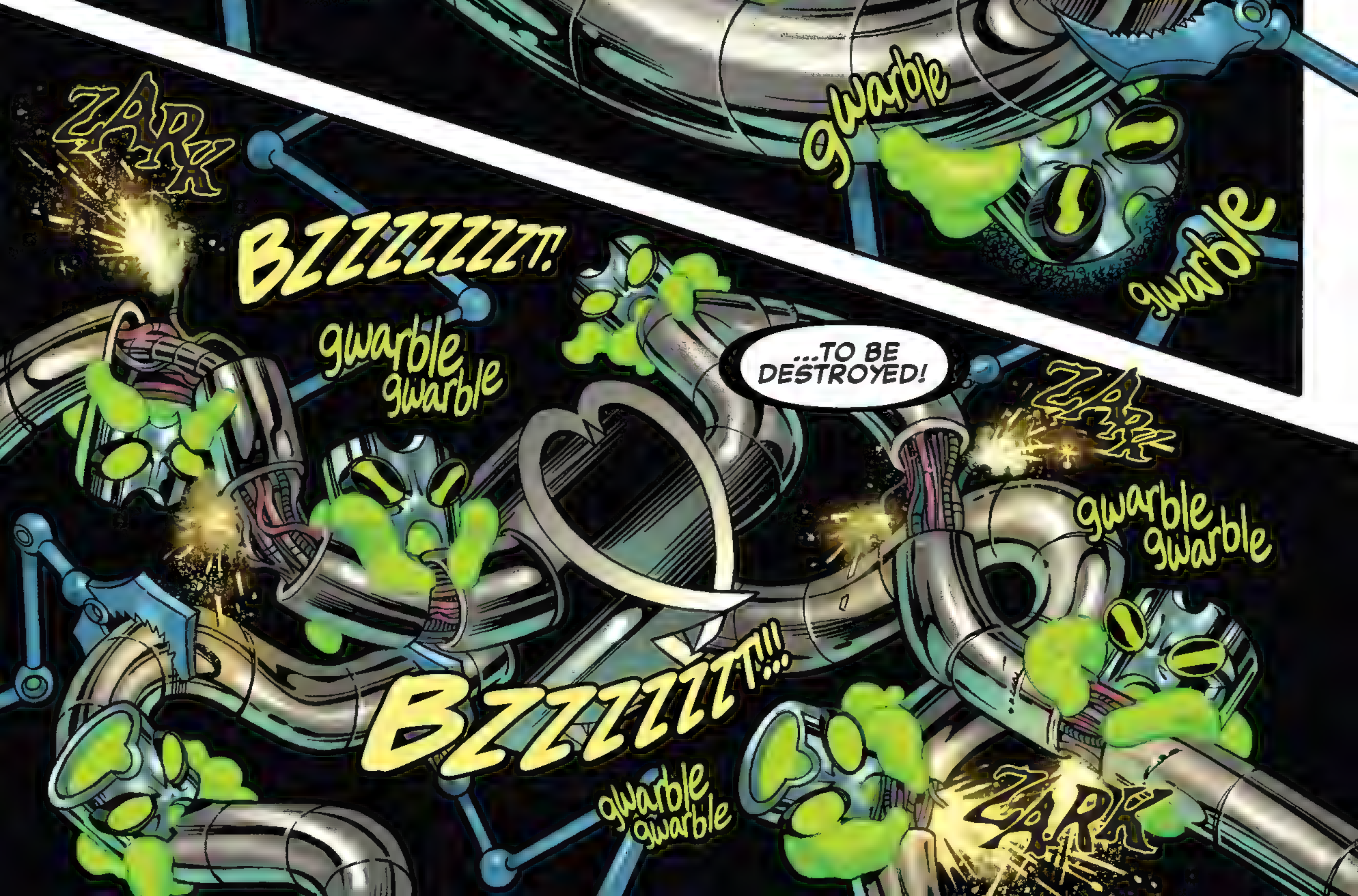
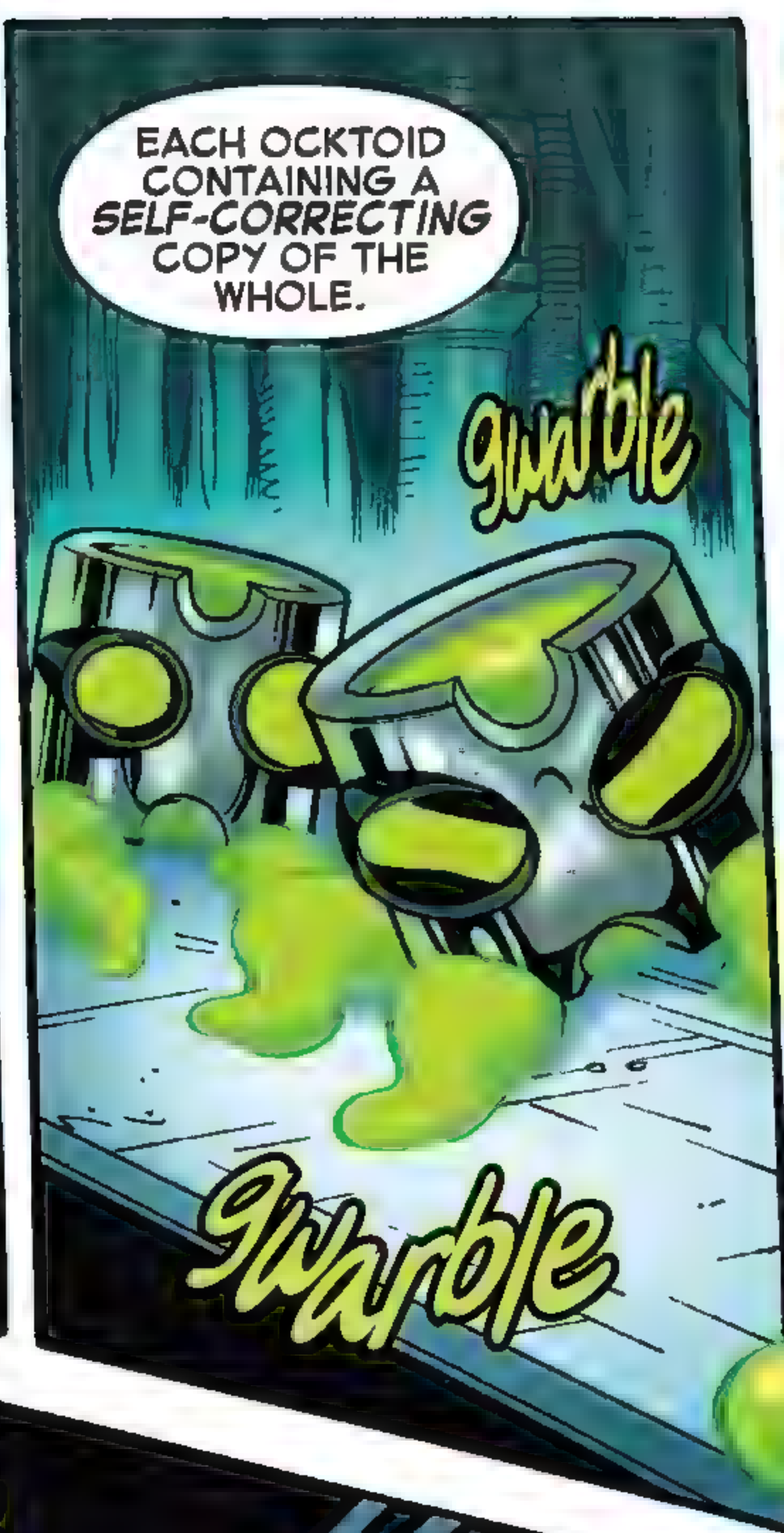
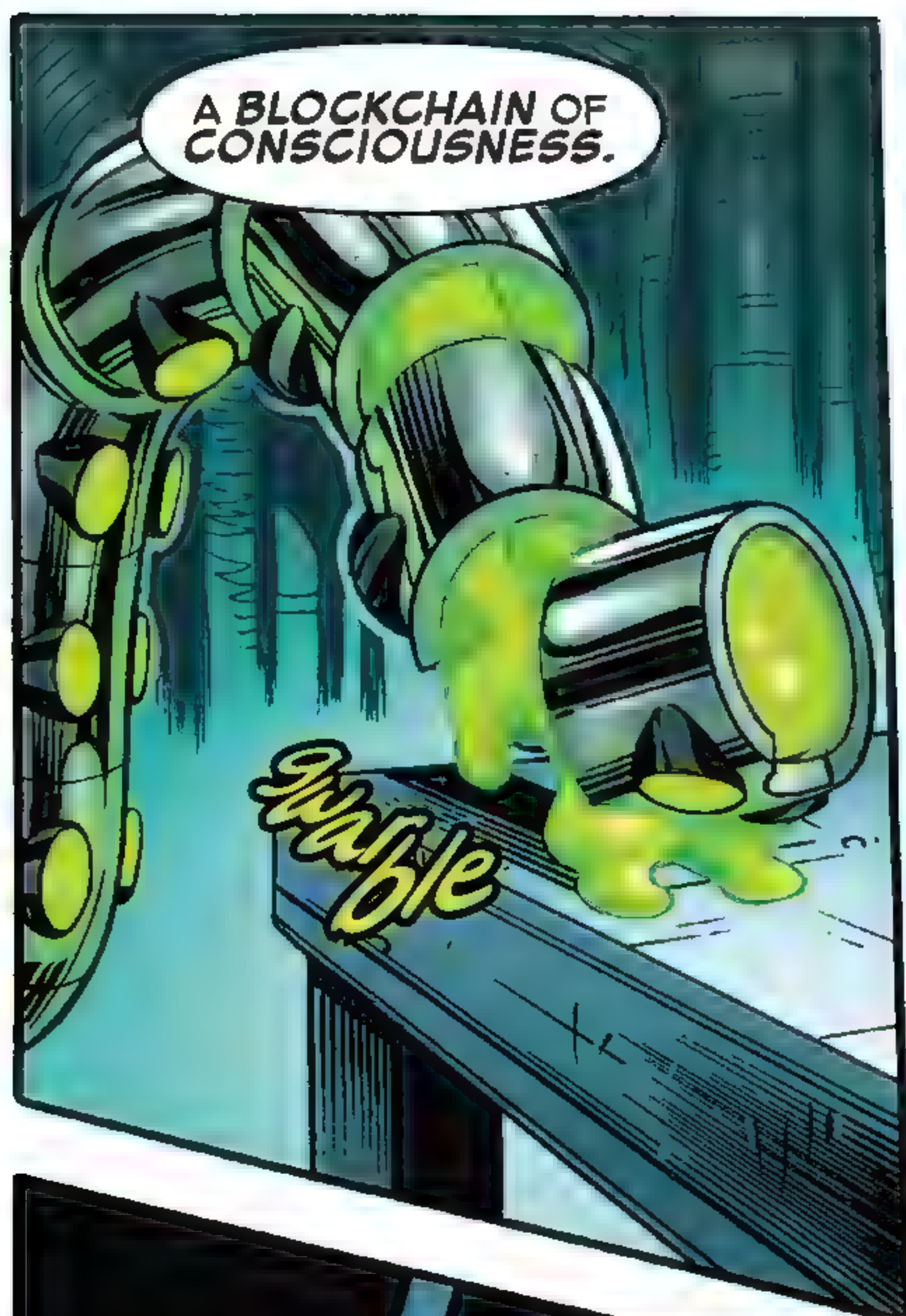
ZLT?

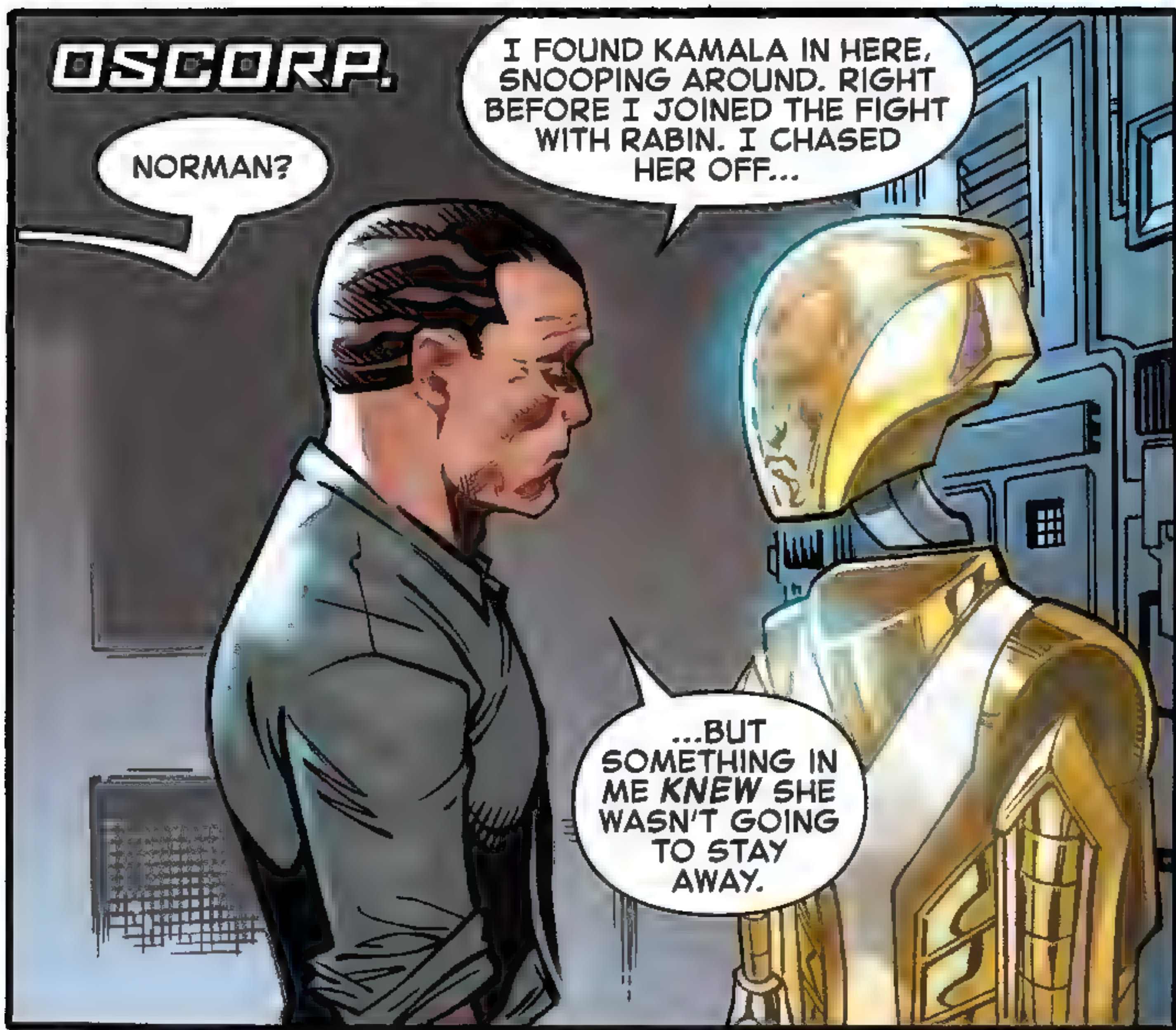
BY A SYSTEM WITH
REDUNDANCIES.

SLURP
SLURP
SLURP

SLURP

MY BRAIN
SIGNALS, FILTERED
THROUGH A MEDIUM
OF SELF-VALIDATING
NANO-FLUID.



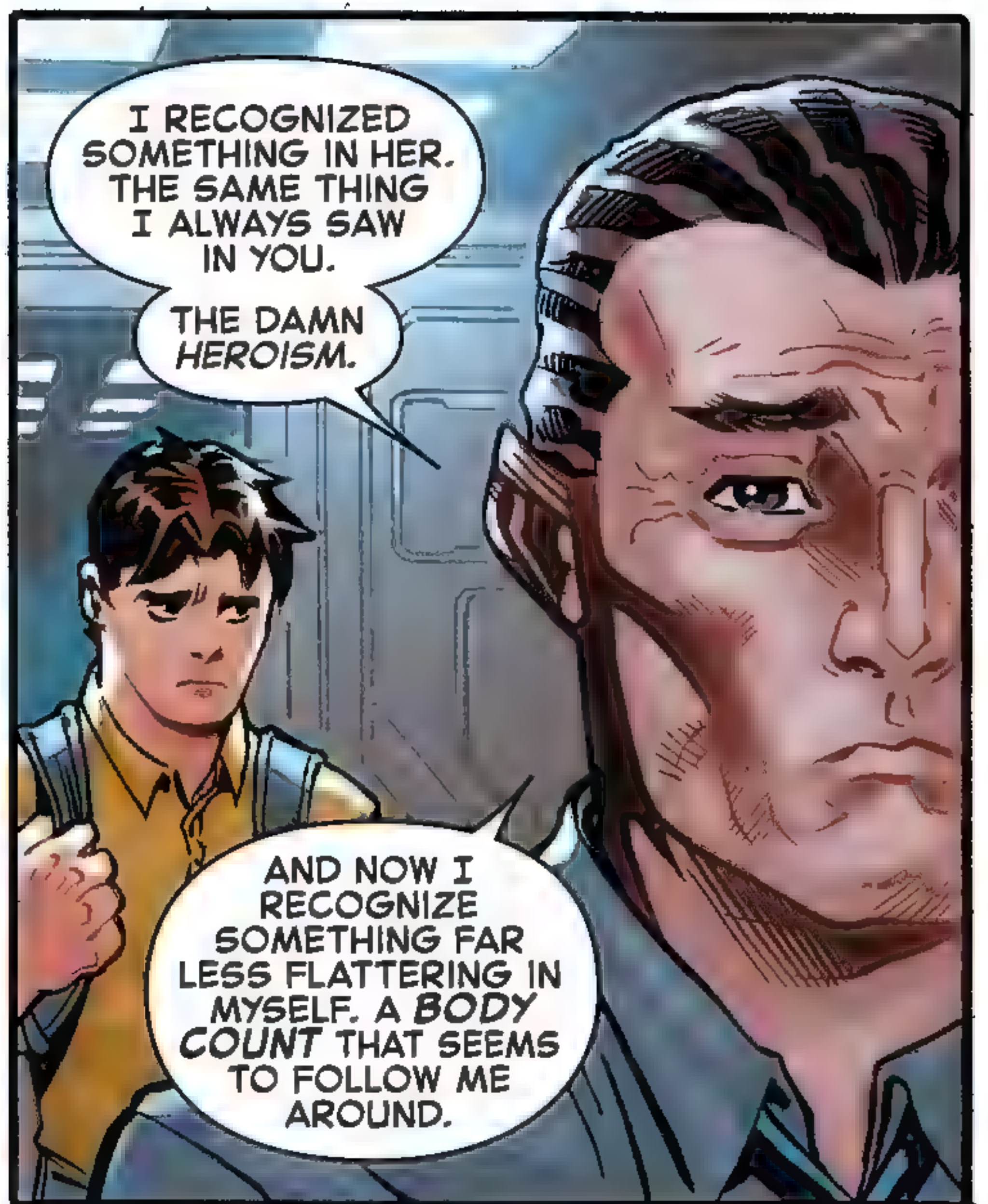


OSCORP.

NORMAN?

I FOUND KAMALA IN HERE, SNOOPING AROUND. RIGHT BEFORE I JOINED THE FIGHT WITH RABIN. I CHASED HER OFF...

...BUT SOMETHING IN ME *KNEW* SHE WASN'T GOING TO STAY AWAY.



I RECOGNIZED SOMETHING IN HER. THE SAME THING I ALWAYS SAW IN YOU.

THE DAMN *HEROISM*.

AND NOW I RECOGNIZE SOMETHING FAR LESS FLATTERING IN MYSELF. A *BODY COUNT* THAT SEEMS TO FOLLOW ME AROUND.



I--I WAS SO UPSET BY KAMALA'S DEATH I HAD TO BE *REMIND*ED THAT I'D KILLED QUEEN GOBLIN LAST MONTH.

NORMAN, IT ISN'T--

DON'T WORRY, PETER. I'M NOT MAKING EXCUSES.

I KNOW IF I HAD NEVER BEEN THE GREEN GOBLIN IN THE FIRST PLACE, KAMALA NEVER WOULD HAVE JOINED OSCORP. SHE NEVER WOULD HAVE SUSPECTED I HAD EVIL INTENTIONS.

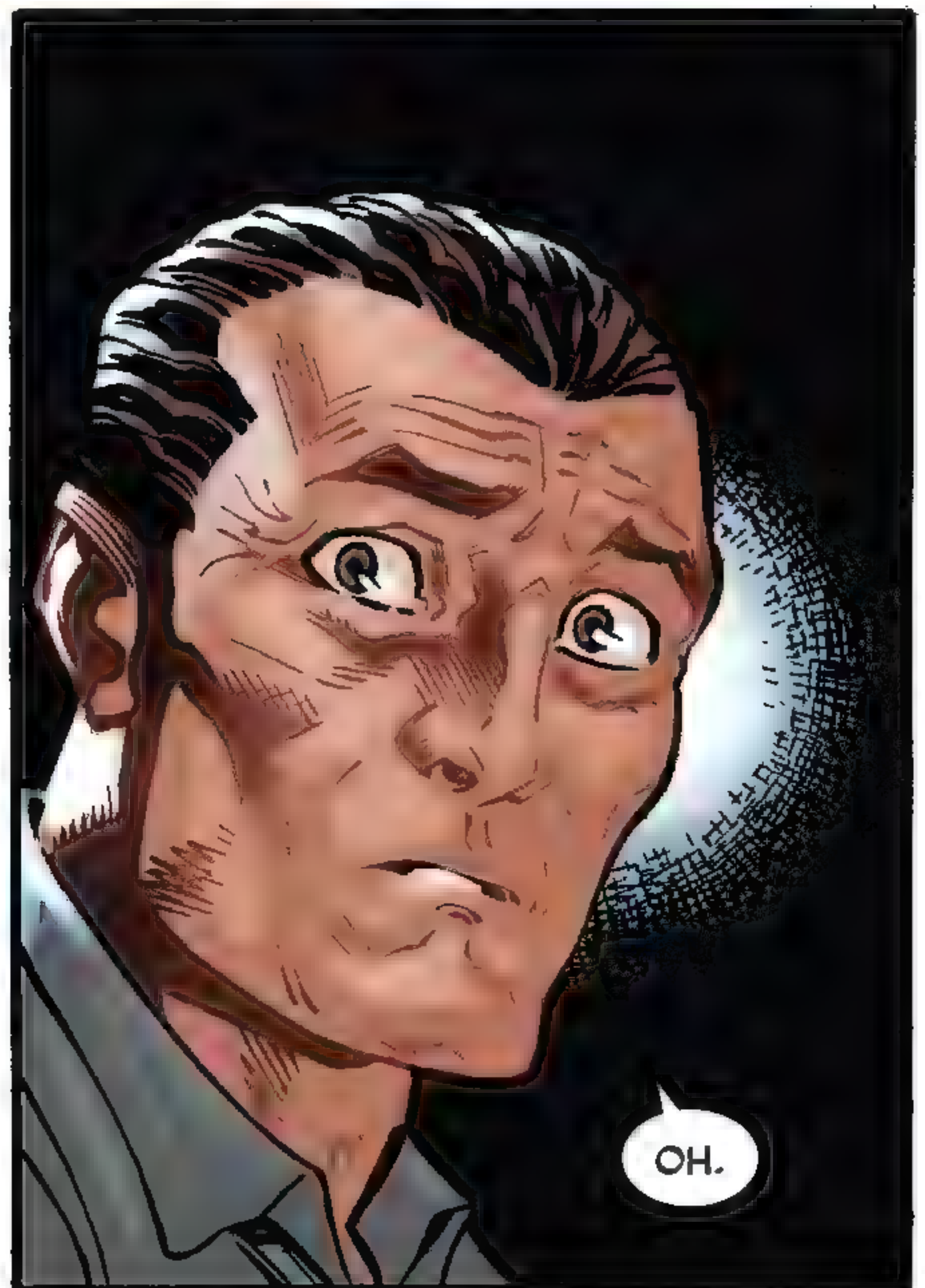
IT'S ALL MY FAULT. THAT'S WHAT YOU CAME HERE TO SAY, ISN'T IT?



NO, NORMAN. NOT AT ALL.

I CAME HERE TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE OKAY. TO MAKE SURE YOU CAN HANDLE ALL THIS. TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T...

YOU KNOW.



OH.

THIS IS WHAT YOU DO, ISN'T IT? TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL OF US?

IT MUST BE EXHAUSTING. AND IT CAN'T LEAVE A LOT OF SPACE FOR YOUR OWN FEELINGS.

MAYBE...

BUT I'M NOT GONNA LET ANYTHING BAD COME OUT OF HER SACRIFICE.

I OWE HER THAT MUCH.

I...I KNOW IT'S NOT WHAT WE ARE EXACTLY, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO BE A GOOD FRIEND TO YOU. TO THE EXTENT YOU'LL LET ME.

TO THAT END... YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME. THE GREEN GOBLIN IS A ROAD I WILL NEVER GO DOWN AGAIN. I'M OKAY.

PROMISE.

I... I BELIEVE YOU.

WOW.

I'M SORRY I WORRIED.

IT'S JUST, THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS HAVE TRIED REALLY HARD TO PUSH YOU OVER THE LINE.

QUEEN GOBLIN ALONE...

YOU'RE RIGHT.

AND THOUGH I WILL ALWAYS BE...CONFLICTED BY MY ROLE IN HER DEATH, WE CAN BOTH TAKE SOLACE IN ONE FACT...



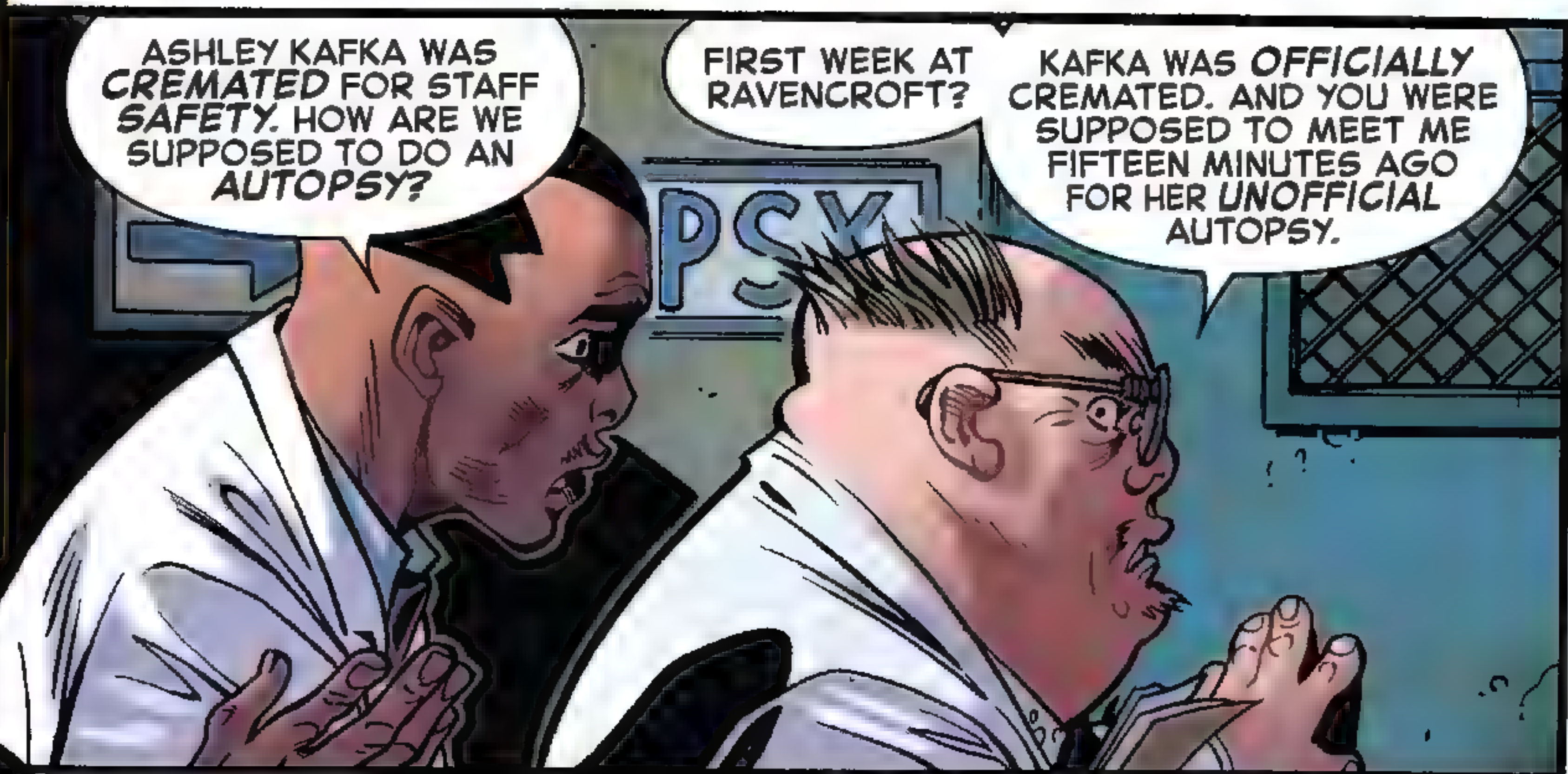
"...THAT SHE'S GONE FOREVER."

YOU'RE LATE, SHELBY.



A-ARE YOU *SURE*? I THOUGHT THE SCHEDULE HAD A TYPO.

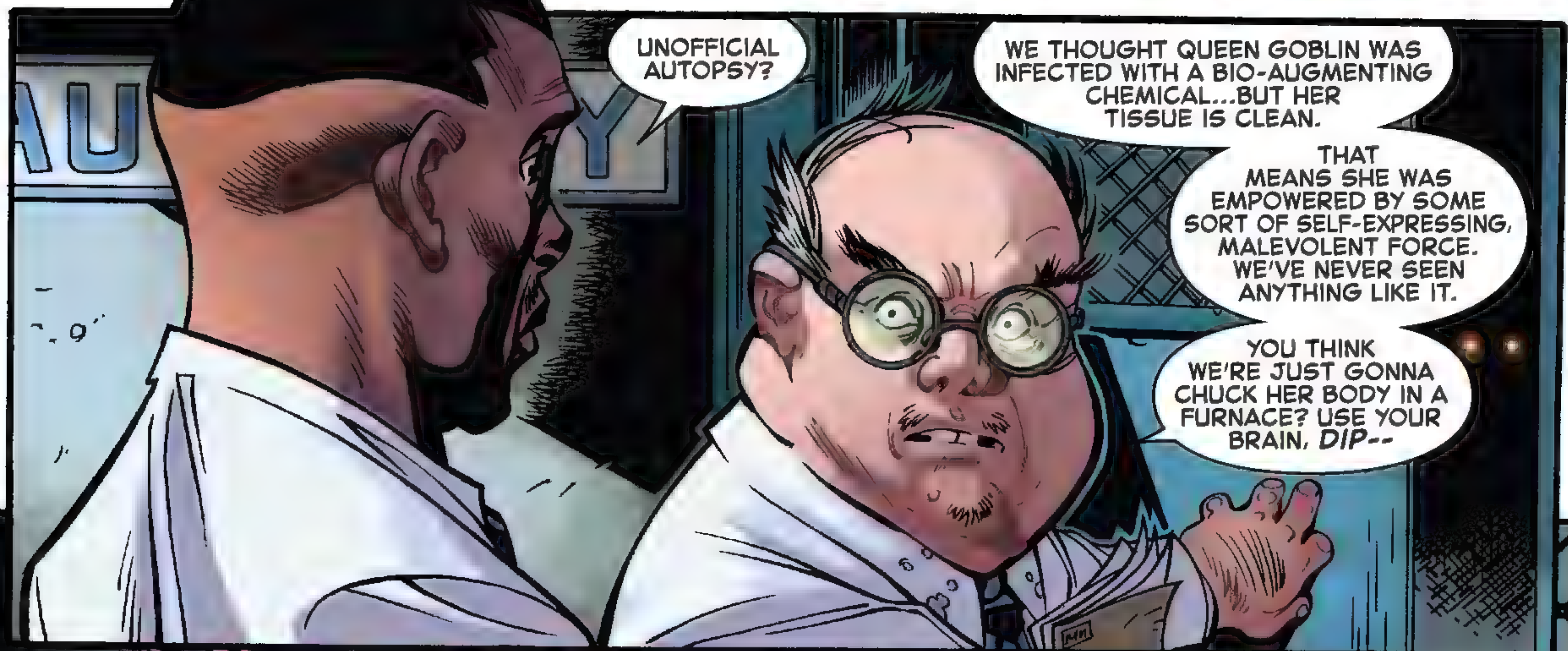
TYPO?



ASHLEY KAFKA WAS CREMATED FOR STAFF SAFETY. HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO AN AUTOPSY?

FIRST WEEK AT RAVENCROFT?

KAFKA WAS OFFICIALLY CREMATED. AND YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO MEET ME FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO FOR HER UNOFFICIAL AUTOPSY.



UNOFFICIAL AUTOPSY?

WE THOUGHT QUEEN GOBLIN WAS INFECTED WITH A BIO-AUGMENTING CHEMICAL...BUT HER TISSUE IS CLEAN.

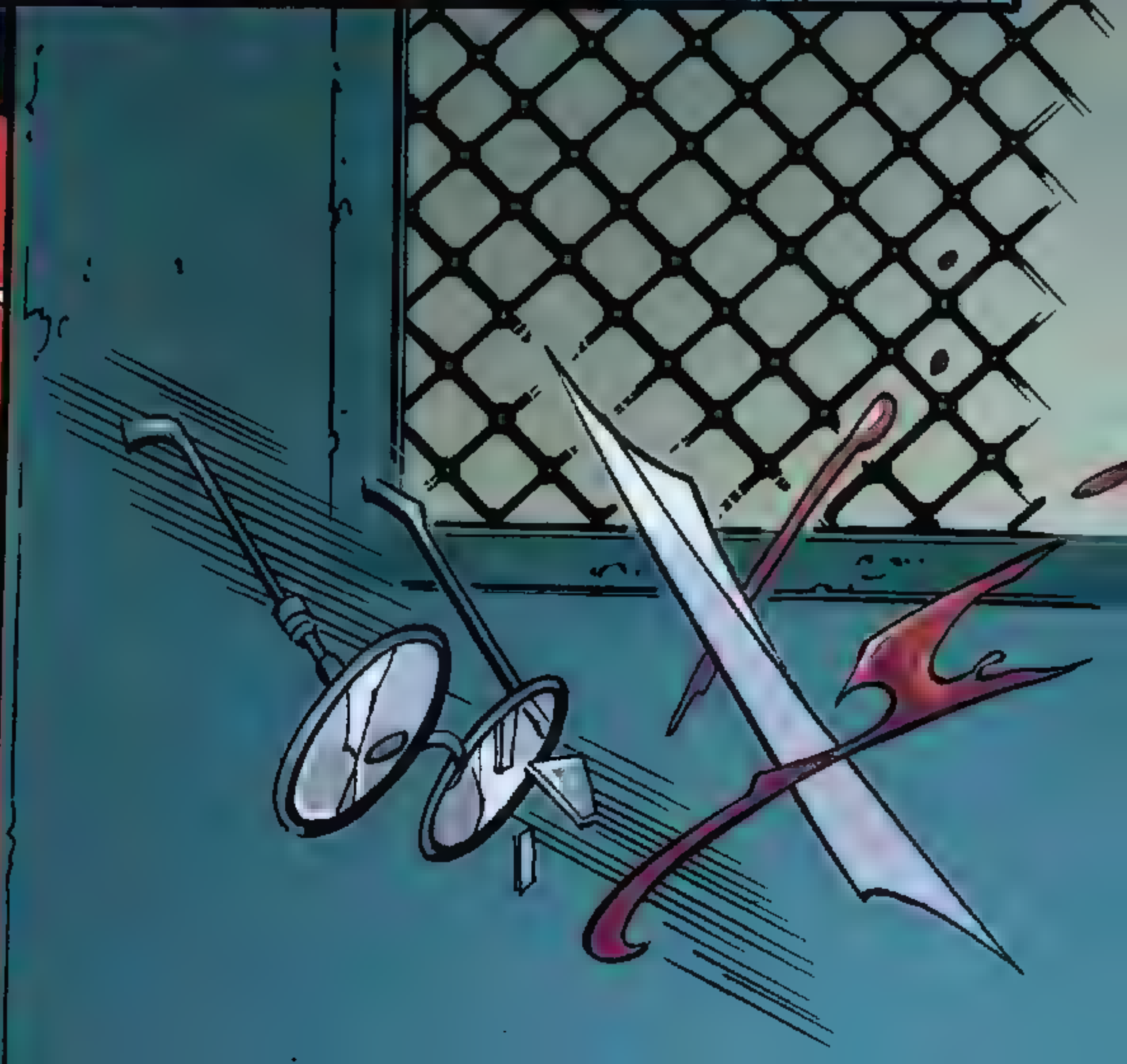
THAT MEANS SHE WAS EMPOWERED BY SOME SORT OF SELF-EXpressING, MALEVOLENT FORCE. WE'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.

YOU THINK WE'RE JUST GONNA CHUCK HER BODY IN A FURNACE? USE YOUR BRAIN, DIP--



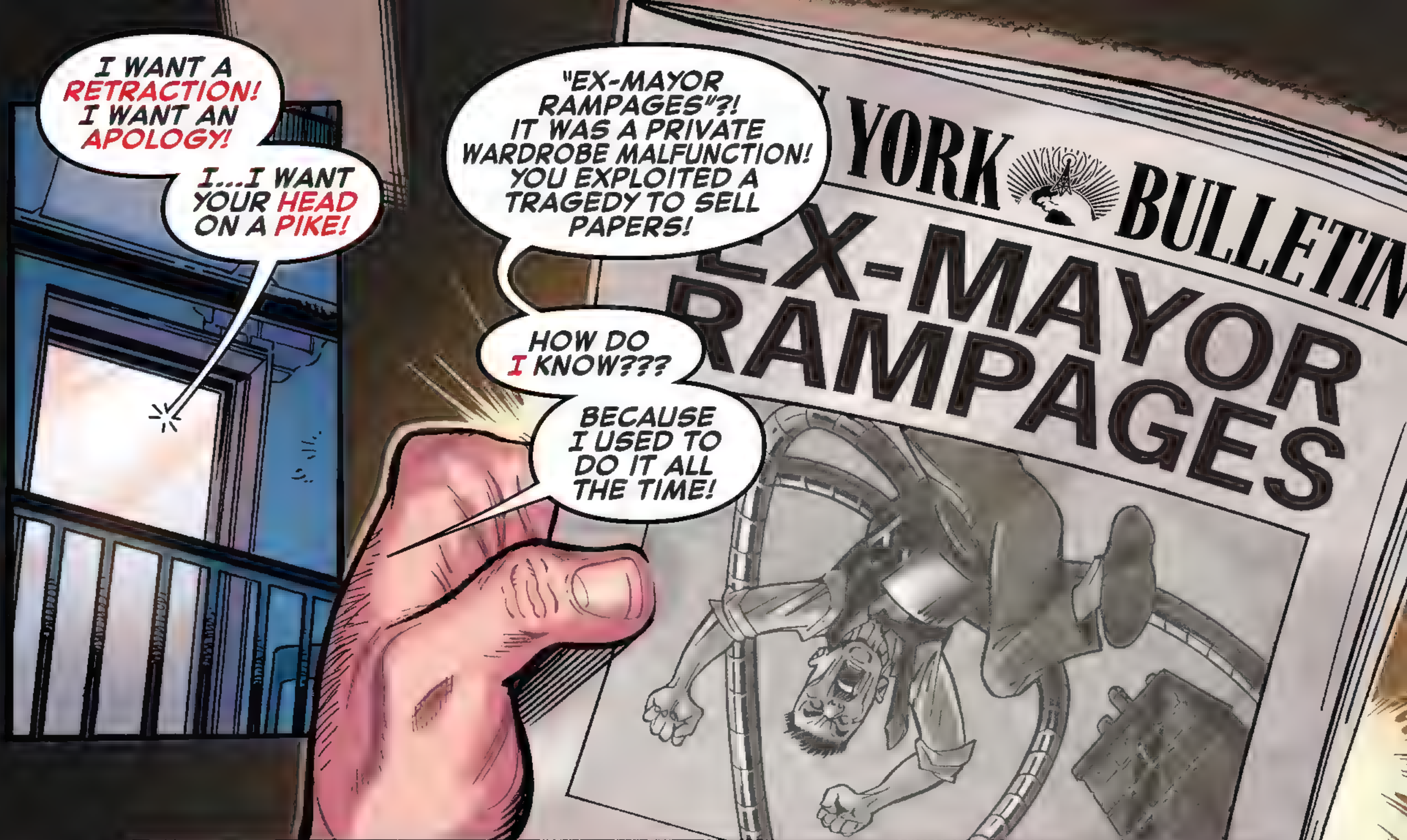
GEE-YARK!

HOLY #&%&!



KSSSSSS
SSSSSS!





I WANT A
RETRACTION!
I WANT AN
APOLOGY!

I...I WANT
YOUR **HEAD**
ON A **PIKE!**

"EX-MAYOR
RAMPAGES"?!
IT WAS A PRIVATE
WARDROBE MALFUNCTION!
YOU EXPLOITED A
TRAGEDY TO SELL
PAPERS!

HOW DO
I KNOW???

BECAUSE
I USED TO
DO IT ALL
THE TIME!

WHERE
DID YOU GET
THE PHOTO?!
WHO SOLD ME
OUT?!

"PROTECT
YOUR
SOURCES"?!

YOUR PAPER
IS A TRUMPED-UP
TABLOID BUTT-RAG!
MAYBE BIGFOOT CAN'T
TAKE YOU TO COURT,
BUT I SURE AS
HELL CAN!



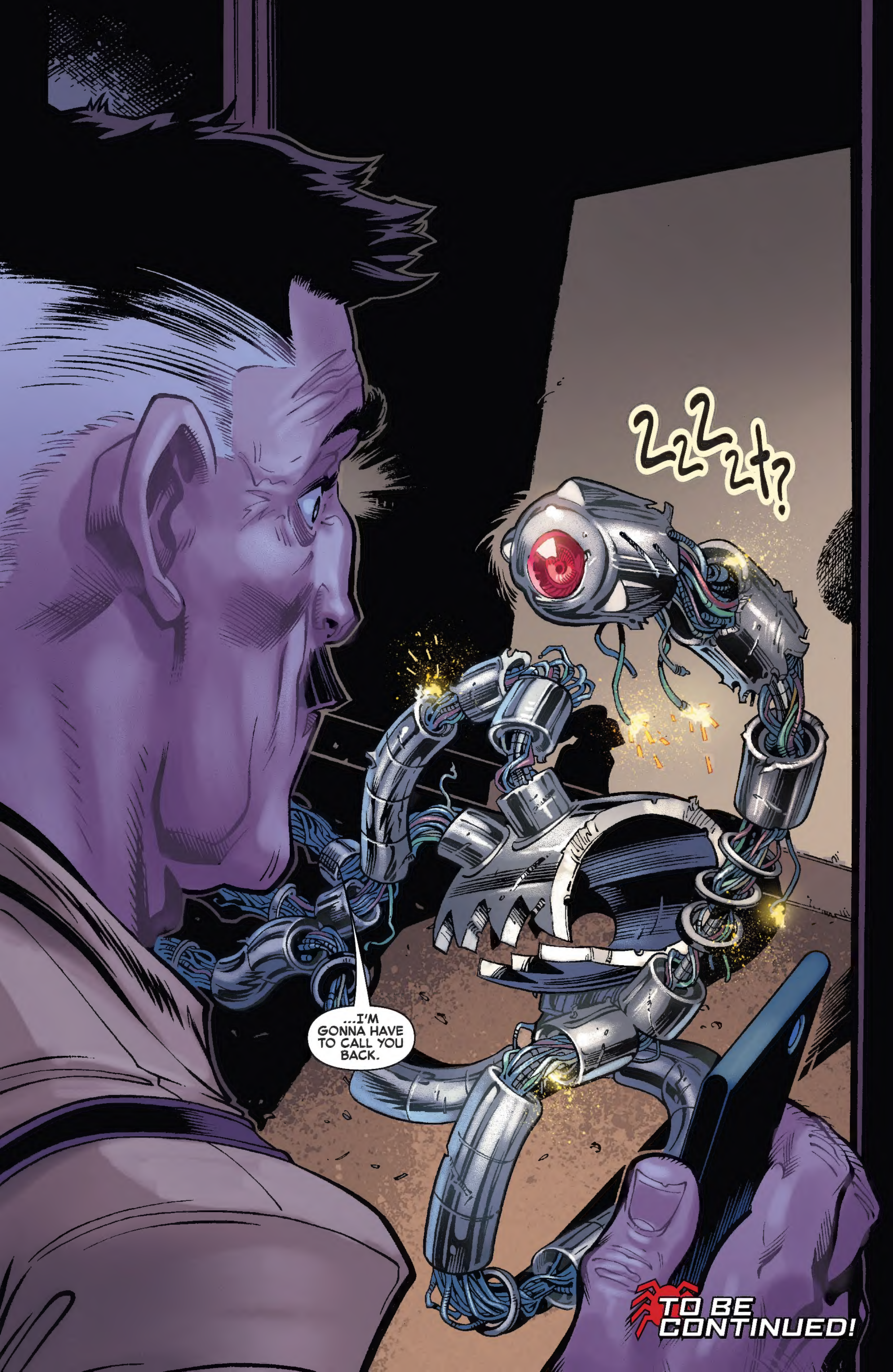
YOU LISTEN TO ME.
I'M GONNA COME
DOWN THERE,
AND--

HOLD
ON!



WHAT?!





...I'M
GONNA HAVE
TO CALL YOU
BACK.

2224?

 **TO BE
CONTINUED!**

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

Hey there, Web-Heads!

Just when you thought you had taken enough emotional punches to the gut, we serve up that last page! As I write this, the Mary Jane-centric ASM #25 is about to come out, and the momentous ASM #26 doesn't come out for another four weeks! Luckily, you all had plenty to say about ASM #24!

Dear Spider-Office,

I just finished issue #24, and despite the fact that I'm absolutely HATING how things are turning out for Peter and MJ, I must admit that Wells' storytelling and JRJR's art are outstanding. The fact that MJ has been trapped in another reality for years, fallen in love with another man in that reality, and had children with him seems hard to believe, and I'm not sure what to make of it. Nevertheless, the fact that these plot points are being discussed among readers shows that the goal of keeping us on our toes has been achieved. I read the solicitations, and I'm dreading issues #25 and #26 but honestly can't wait. I'm sure the conclusion of this storyline will be a blast.

Keep it up.

Yours truly,
Ernesto Sisto
Polignano a Mare, Italy

Thank you for writing in, Ernesto. First, we're so glad you're having a great time despite the fact that things aren't going as you might have wanted with Peter and Mary Jane. Second, I looked up your town, AND IT LOOKS LIKE HEAVEN ON EARTH!!! Holy moly! Parlo un po de italiano, e devo programmare una visita a Polignano a Mare! Maybe I can talk Zeb into setting an adventure there, and the ASM team can take a field trip!

Dear Amazing Spider-Mail,

Read the two issues of AMAZING this month, #22 and #23, and...yeah, they were good. I loved the JRJR artwork. The story? Well, it seemed a bit decompressed. C'mon, a six-issue arc to explain how Peter/Spidey ended up in his current situation? I think I'd rather go back to the stories in the '70s: one villain per issue in a single-issue story! Remember those classics? Rocked by the Shocker! Jumped by the Kangaroo! Defeated by the Prowler! Ah, never mind. Maybe I'm just in a bad mood. I'll still be reading ASM next month.

Alan Bowman
Sagamihara City, Japan

Hello again, Alan! Sorry you feel that this is decompressed. We're just trying to make the most pulse-pounding emotional comics the world has ever seen, but I understand what you're saying. I've been rereading a lot of those issues lately and do really love them too. A legendary Spidey creator wrote a critical letter early in the run, echoing some of your thoughts, which I appreciated and took in. THAT SAID, the rhythm that Zeb and Johnny are working on VERY MUCH works for me. The intensity, the emotion... I don't know that the levels of both are quite as achievable when the stories are more compressed like you say. Some would disagree, but we aim (and maybe err?) on the side of maximum emotion at the risk of quantity of story. Anyway, time and readers shall tell, I suppose. We're going strong on this volume now, so it looks like it's resonating with a lot of you!

Hey, Spidey-Office dudes and dudettes!

Finally got the opportunity to read some actual comics! Been wanting to read these comics for years now and finally did! Love what you all are doing here, and I am excited to read on!

Excelsior!
Ethan Cornish

Thanks for the letter, Ethan. We dudes and dudettes are glad you're having fun!

Hey, guys,

I really doubt this will see print, whether that's self-confirming or not. I have enjoyed the book and still have some criticisms, some for the fan column itself (oh no!).

So, I'll start with the good. Y'all have a good hook, I admit. It's the framing of the whole series thus far and so "out there" that it left me with the notion that I HAD to find out what Peter did. Having someone like JRJR draw ninety percent of the run back-to-back-to-back without interruption, save for an event that was a throwback with a meta-choice of McGuinness art (he's great and has that '90s/'00s vibe) and a two-parter with the Dodsons, is sublime. It can't be understated how well it contributed to a run feeling singular, even despite having to go through Judgment Day as well as Dark Web before twenty issues had passed.

I hope JRJR draws as long as he wants to for the series--I'm a late appreciator of his style, but you could say I got caught in his artistic webbing!

That's the praise, and it's deserved. But something that bothers me is the letter column itself. I don't recall seeing anything but absolute praise--people who haven't read comics in eighty years coming back and reading the series has changed their life, saved their marriage, got them a raise at work, and made them more jacked AND intelligent. I'm being hyperbolic, yes, but the "haven't read in _ years and now I'm back" letters and the like is great but starts feeling a bit manufactured when we all know there's controversy with the title. Some from career whiners and perpetually online A.I.-esque lemmings, but there's legit critique as well.

I'm not a lifelong ASM reader, so this is all fresh for me, but I have heard respectable comic fans with big communities who have dropped the title altogether. People who aren't the professional outrage seekers. Having nothing but practical butt-kissing feels...saccharine. Is this making sense or am I being a little too wordy?

Looking forward to more story,
Zach from Georgia

Thanks for writing and sharing your thoughts, Zach. I'm pretty sure we've run negative letters during this run, but I don't really have time to crunch numbers on that. But there are a few things I want to respond to. First, we get positive letters, and we get negative letters. We run letters that we find interesting or compelling. Are we biased? SURE! We're people! But we don't manufacture any letters, and I don't love that you're calling legitimate letters that we get "butt-kissing." To be honest, we get more negative letters when I answer people on Twitter than after an issue comes out, which tends to make me think they aren't from people reading the book as much. Running this letter and ASM #25 will almost certainly add to the amount of criticism! But ultimately, the letters we get or don't get aren't a big factor in our decision-making. Sales are a bigger barometer and, believe it or not, sales have been really good! Anyway, thanks for writing, Zach, and I know one thing we DEFINITELY agree on is that JRJR is AMAZING!

WTH happened to Rek-Rap? Where did he go after Dark Web? Doesn't seem like him to leave Spidey. Man, I loved that dude! Please tell me he's coming back. You really left me hanging there at the end--I wanted to see him off doing something great! Anyway, I loved the whole storyline. You guys are amazing!

Rex Pinson

You and me BOTH, Rex. I love Rek-Rap as well, but that's all I'm going to say!!!

Gotta run to make some more Spidey Comics and plan my trip to visit Ernesto!

KEEP THWIPPIN'!

Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor
New York, NY

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



NEXT:

ISSUE #28

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

